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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITE PROCEDURE---
EXAMINING GROUP 2654

In re patent application of

Kazunori Ozawa

Serial No. 09/302,397

Examiner Angela A. Armstrong

Filed April 30, 1999

Art Unit 2654

For SPEECH CODING APPARATUS AND SPEECH DECODING APPARATUS

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 23, 2002, the Applicant requests entry of the following amendment to resolve prosecution matters and place the case in *prima facie* condition for allowance.

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 5.

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REMARKS

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Claim 5 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer in order to simplify the issues in this case.

Claims 1-11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. However, the Examiner has not identified any feature in any claim which is not supported by the specification. As such, it is clear that every feature of every claim is supported by the patent specification. Immediate withdrawal of the rejection is in order.

Claims 1-11 have been rejected as being obvious over Kleijn in view of